

ESTABLISHED 1877—NEW SERIES.

WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1893.

VOL. XII—NO. 50—WHOLE NO. 622.

CHANCELLORSVILLE.

The Attack of Jackson and the Resistance of the Eleventh Corps.

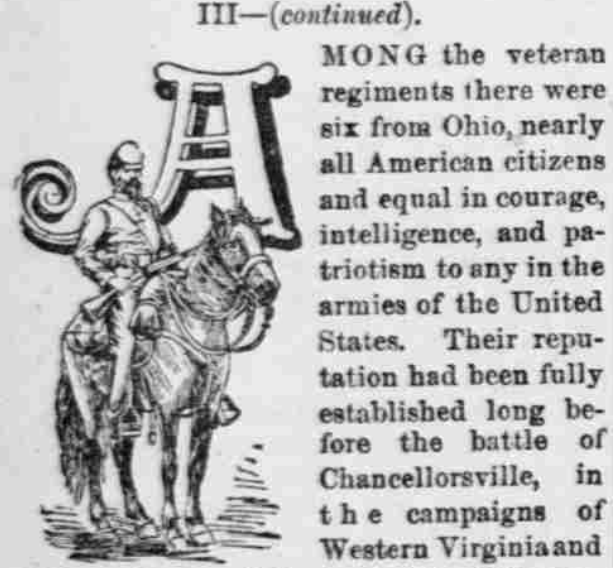
VETERAN REGIMENTS.

A Noble Array of Officers to Lead the Corps.

FATUITY THE ORDER.

Significance of the Expedition to and below the Welford Furnace.

BY AUGUSTUS C. HAMLIN, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL AND HISTORIAN OF THE ELEVENTH CORPS, BANGOR, ME.



at Cross Keys, and in the battle of the second Manassas, where the most of them won special praise. They were the 25th, the 55th, the 61st, the 73d, the 75th, and the 82d, all of which were commanded by American officers of acknowledged ability and courage.

No words of praise are necessary for Col. Richardson, of the 25th; for Col. Lee, of the 55th; for Col. Stephen McGroarty, of the 61st; for Col. Orlando Smith, of the 73d; for Col. Robert Riley, of the 75th; or for that noble officer, Col. James S. Robinson, of the 82d Ohio.

All of these regiments, excepting the 73d, then detached with Barlow, were in the light, and attempted to do their duty, and did so at a terrible sacrifice of their men, for which adequate praise has not been given. It would be difficult to find six trustier regiments in all the armies of the United States than these.

The 61st Ohio was commanded by that sterling Irishman, Col. Stephen J. McGroarty, and his regiment seemed to be largely composed of Irishmen or those of Irish descent, so strong was the individuality of



GEN. G. K. WARREN.

the commander. No one ever questioned McGroarty's courage or ability, and at the close of the war he could have exclaimed, with Marins, "My wounds are the proof of my nobility!"

The report of this gallant officer is not to be found, and its absence is a serious loss to the history of the fight around Dowdall's and at the church. It is certain, however, that the brave officer who held his regiment as rear-guard until midnight on the deserted field of the second Bull Run did all that one man could do in arresting disaster in the face of ruin, or what appeared to be ruin.

The 61st was drawn up in line facing the west, waiting for the enemy, when the WRECKED DEVEN'S DIVISION, rushing down the road to escape the withering fire of Jackson's men, overran them and destroyed their formation, and carried a part of it away with them. In the crowd, which continued on toward the Chancellor House. Parts of the broken regiment joined the line by the church, and later on fell back to the Buschbeck line and fought there. Two of the companies attached themselves to Dilger's battery and stuck to him in the retreat, and followed him to his position in the line of artillery at Fairview, where they remained until morning.

The 61st N. Y. was known as the De Kalb regiment, and was reduced by fighting and hardship to about 300 men. It was formed by Von Gilis, and it was said to have contained at first several hundred soldiers who had served with Von Gilis in the Prussian army, and were well-instructed men.

The 45th N. Y. was also a veteran regiment, under Col. Von Steinwehr, and although much reduced in numbers by campaigning, it contained a few more men than the 41st. These two regiments of about 700 men were placed in the road behind the two guns on picket, and were attacked by the enemy in flank and rear, and were justified in retreating as they did.

As the reports of this brigade are all missing and the commanders are dead, it is difficult to ascertain how much fighting these regiments really did; but there is no doubt, from the personnel of these regiments, but that they would have made a determined

resistance if they had been in a proper position and had had any chance whatever to fight.

The 73d Pa. was organized at Philadelphia in June, 1861, by Col. John A. Koltes, who was a gallant German soldier of distinction, who had served in the Mexican war, and had also been a soldier in the Regular Army. He was a citizen of this country, and employed in the United States Mint at the time of the civil war. His regiment was considered an excellent one, but at the time of Chancellorsville it had become much reduced in numbers, as it had

SUFFERED SEVERELY at the second Bull Run, where it lost both Koltes, who acted as brigade commander, and Brinkner, who commanded the regiment in that sanguinary contest.

The 75th Pa., a veteran regiment, greatly reduced in numbers by two years of honorable service, was placed on picket south of the Dowdall farm, and there they remained until it was too late to join their comrades at the Hawkins farm. They had seen during the day the movements of troops south of them and within range of their guns, but



GEN. FRANCIS C. BARLOW.

were ordered to remain quiet and not provoke a combat. When Dole's Brigade passed between them and the Dowdall House, there was no way of escape but by the woods to the southward, as the enemy in strong force prevented returning by way of the Plank road or the path from Dowdall's. The regiment was rallied and remained for some time spectators of the battle in rear of them until the troops held back by Colquitt now coming up in their rear, front and right flank, compelled them to retire.

There were but 250 men in the regiment that day, and of these 60 had been detailed to service at the Hawkins farm, leaving but 200 men to perform picket duty south of Dowdall's. Here they were attacked by Colquitt's men, when they resumed their march and flanked the position at Dowdall's and were soon dispersed, with a loss of 50 killed, wounded, and missing.

The remainder of the regiment, reduced to 130 men, crossed the stream to the southeast of Dowdall's, then in possession of the enemy, and escaped by following the north bank of Scott's Run until they reached the southern edge of Hazel Grove, where they took the road or path leading to Fairview. They brought up the rear—not the front—of the

GRAND SKEADLE which Pleasanton has described, and when they reached the position where the artillery were placed in battery they fell in behind Dilger's battery, having retained their arms, and there they remained until ordered to the rear of the Chancellor House late in the evening.

This was Gen. Bohlen's old regiment, and was formed of volunteers from men of German birth or of German ancestry largely, but among them there were many Americans of excellent qualities. The personnel of this regiment was superior, and it is doubtful if Philadelphia sent any better troops to the war.

Gen. Bohlen, who raised this regiment largely at his own expense, was a distinguished soldier long before the rebellion. At the age of 21 he was on the recommendation of Gen. Lafayette, appointed on the staff of Gen. Gerard, and served with him during the siege of Antwerp. He also served on the staff of Gen. Worth in the Mexican war, and took part in several engagements. During the Crimean war he served in the French army, and was well versed in the art of war. Although born in Germany, he was intensely an American citizen, and when the rebellion threatened the liberties of his adopted country he left the scenes of pleasure which his great wealth and social position gave him in Europe, and hastened at once to perform his part.

The men whom he called around him in forming the 75th Pa. were of a superior class, and their standing should not be reckoned according to the monthly pittance received for their services. In fact, the volunteers of 1861 and 1862 were from the best class of citizens throughout the country, East or West, and were probably never surpassed in intelligence or patriotism in any of the civil revolutions of history. Gen. Bohlen was killed in one of the fights preceding the second Bull Run.

The First Division was commanded by Gen. Charles Devens, who had been sent to the corps by Hooker and assigned to the division. Devens was an officer of ability and courage, and had taken part in the

TERIBLE AMBUSH at Ball's Bluff, and had served with distinction on the Peninsula, but his displacement of McLean and the austerity of his manners did not add strength to the corps, and it is useless to deny that his introduction into the corps was costly to Howard and fatal to the Army of the Potomac.

The Second Division was under the command of Gen. Von Steinwehr, who was a man of great distinction, and a notable, trained, and veteran soldier. He came from a distinguished military family in Germany, and was well educated in the military schools of that country. He came to this country and served as an officer in an Al-

bama regiment during the Mexican war. Afterwards he became a farmer in Connecticut, and was a citizen of that State when the rebellion called for his services. He came to New York, assisted in forming the 29th N. Y., was chosen its Colonel, and commanded it with credit at the first Bull Run battle. Steinwehr's military reputation ranked high with all who knew him, his ability was never questioned, and he was deserving of the greatest confidence.

The Third Division was under the direction of Gen. Carl Schurz, who, though not educated as a soldier, was well versed in military matters and served with ability. He was a noted leader in the revolution of 1848 in Germany, but escaped and came to the United States in 1852, and soon became a citizen of the Republic. He promptly offered his services to the Government in 1861, and soon rose to be a Major-General, and commanded a division with ability at the second Bull Run. His rare intellectual gifts assisted him greatly in his military career, and the record of his services in the war is an honorable one.

The brigade commanders in the First Division were McLean and Von Gilis. McLean was a son of Chief Justice McLean, and was one of the early volunteers of Ohio, and had won his way along the military path by sturdy fighting. He had recently been appointed Brigadier-General and put in command of the division, but was displaced by Devens and returned to his brigade.

McLean was an officer of discretion and firmness, but did not possess that courage which dares do the correct thing when the commander is clearly at fault. His strict obedience to his superior officer was military, but it was fatal to his men.

Von Gilis was another example of the typical German soldier. He had been an officer of the rank of Major in the Schleswig-Holstein war, and soon afterwards came to this country and became a citizen, and was a schoolteacher when the rebellion broke out, when he came to the front at once and organized the De Kalb Regiment, which contained a large number of trained German soldiers who had served with him in Holstein.

Von Gilis served with credit wherever he was, and although he had served as commander of brigade and division, yet he was mustered out in 1864 as a Colonel, the same rank he was given in April, 1861. He was a marked example of the neglect of the War Department in the distribution of its favors and its obligations. It was his misfortune to have been placed on the extreme right and left to face the full force of Jackson's first blow, and because he could not fight an overwhelming force of the enemy in his front and both flanks at the same time

HE BORNE THE BLAME OF OTHERS, and the sting of injustice carried him to an early grave.

The two brigade commanders in the Second Division were Buschbeck and Barlow. Adolphus Buschbeck was the son of a German officer, educated as a soldier in the military schools of Germany, and at one time an instructor in the Cadet School of Potsdam. About 10 years before the rebellion he came to this country, and became a citizen and schoolteacher in Philadelphia. He assisted largely in forming the 27th Pa., and was soon afterwards chosen its Colonel, becoming General of brigade and division.



GEN. DANIEL D. BIRNEY.

The records show that Buschbeck was a man of high soldierly qualities, and was well thought of by Gen. Hooker and Gen. Sherman.

Gen. Francis Barlow was a newcomer in the corps, and was but little known to its members. His ways were too abrupt and his views too much of the martinet to please his brigade, but they soon discovered that he was as intrepid as Deatur and as fond of a fight as the naval hero of earlier times.

The commander of the First Brigade of the Third Division was Brig-Gen. Alexander Schimmelfennig, who had been an officer in the Prussian army, and also an officer under Kosuth in the Hungarian insurrection. He then came to this country and became a citizen, publishing soon after a history of the war between Russia and Turkey.

At the outbreak Schimmelfennig assisted in raising the 74th Pa., and remained in service during the war. He is said to have come from the celebrated family of that name in Europe, and was considered one of the best-read officers in military science to be found in the army. He was a man of slight figure, but of undaunted courage and resolution. He fell keenly the unjust imputation of Chancellorsville, and chagrin hastened his death soon after the war closed.

The commander of the Second Brigade, Third Division, was Col. Waladimir Krzyzanski, who had been exiled from Poland by the revolution of 1846, and had become a citizen of the United States and a civil engineer by profession. But when SUMMER WAS ATTACKED he promptly cancelled all his engagements and assisted in raising the 68th N. Y., of which he became the Colonel.

Maj. Ernst F. Hoffmann was the Chief En-

gineer of the corps; a Prussian by birth and military education; was an officer of distinction at the age of 24 years, when he was decorated with the Order of the Red Eagle by the King of Prussia.

Hoffmann was a man of superior education, and more than the peer of the chivalric Heroes Von Bocke, whom Gens. Lee and Stuart thought so highly of in the rebel army. His life had been adventurous and romantic, and he had seen service with distinction with the Prussian army in Denmark, and with the English army in the Crimea and in Africa, and also on the staff of Garibaldi, in Italy. At the time of the war he was serving on the staff of Gen. de la Marmora in Italy, as Major of Engineers, and was sent by our Minister, George P. Marsh, to our Government, with letters of the highest character.

An eloquent tribute to the ability and the noble qualities of this sterling soldier may be found in the columns of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE of March 5, 1885, from the pen of his distinguished and true friend, Maj.-Gen. James H. Wilson, of the U. S. Army.

IV.

The fatal reconnaissance toward the Furnace by Birney increased in proportions as he descended the road southward and beyond the Furnace. Whipple's Division was then added to Birney's, and later Sickles called for Williams's Division, of the Twelfth



GEN. R. E. RHODES, C. S. A.

Corps, which was detached from its fortifications and added to the attacking force. Sickles also called for Berry's Division to support his movement, but Hooker refused to permit it to leave its position, and sent instead Barlow's Brigade, of the Eleventh Corps.

Barlow's Brigade of nearly 3,000 men was taken from its position as reserve to the Eleventh Corps at between 4 and 5 p. m., and sent to Sickles, increasing his columns of attack to quite 20,000 men. The taking of Barlow's Brigade by Capt. Moore, of Hooker's staff, may be regarded as a rescinding of the order of Van Allen's at 9:30 a. m., and also as positive evidence that at Hooker's Headquarters there were no apprehensions whatever of danger to the exposed Eleventh Corps.

This expedition to the Welford Furnace and below is clearly the cause of the failure of the campaign. It is difficult to place the authorship of

THIS ILL-TIMED MOVEMENT on documentary proof, but up to 10 a. m. it certainly cannot be ascribed to Hooker, and there is enough to give rise to at least a suspicion that it arose from a vehement desire to act independently and gain honors which were in easy reach, and which are sometimes displayed by the enemy as tempting prizes to ambitious subordinate officers.

The investigator is unable to place clearly and positively the unclaimed honors where they belong, but they may safely be collectively given to Birney, Hooker, Sickles, and Warren, and let the partisans of each sift the evidence and place it to their liking. The late Gen. Underwood, who was one of the participants of its glories and a sufferer in its shame, declares that Sickles is responsible for it; that he planned the expedition and persuaded Hooker to allow him to make it, and is the person of all others accountable for the forlorn condition in which the Eleventh Corps was left when Jackson's blow came.

After depriving the Eleventh Corps of its reserves, and assuring it that Lee and the rebel army was retreating and far on the road to Gordonsville, it seems incredible that Hooker, Birney, Sickles, and others should attempt to lay all the blame on the defenseless and friendless corps. Such appear to be the facts; and, moreover, there seems to have been a conspiracy on the part of the guilty ones to shift all blame and errors upon the unfortunate corps, to divert attention from the real causes.

It was stated to Congress that there was a conspiracy in the Army of the Potomac against Hooker, and there is certainly sufficient evidence to warrant the assertion that there was also a conspiracy in that army to wreck the reputation of the Eleventh Corps.

Hooker's orders all indicate a determined resolution to remain on the defensive, and his words of caution to Sickles when he went down to the Furnace with Birney's Division were not to bring on a battle, yet he permitted 20,000 men to be detached from the entrenched lines of defense and moved forward two or three miles in a dense forest, leaving a gap of three miles between Von Gilis's deflected force on the right flank and Berry's Division, the nearest available force in reserve.

Late in the afternoon Sickles was about to attack

THE RETREATING ENEMY, and had called for Pleasanton and his cavalry to follow up the effective blow. The leaders of this unfortunate expedition seemed to have been ignorant of Jackson's whereabouts at this time as Gen. Knyphausen, of the Hessians, was of our Revolutionary fathers when he inquired of the Captain of the ship if he had not sailed past in the night the place called America, where the rebels were.

At this time, or a little later, there was no enemy between Birney's extreme front and

the Ohio River. Posey and Wright, and their brigades, were concealed on his left, in the woods, listening for the sounds of Jackson's guns. From his front Archer had withdrawn his Tennesseans and was following the trail of Jackson's column, leaving the road free for Barlow's Brigade, of the Eleventh Corps, to march three miles south of the unfinished railroad, vainly seeking connection with Birney's advanced force.

At this hour, past 5 p. m., Hooker, Sickles, Warren, and most of the other general officers, excepting, perhaps, Slocum, believed that the rebels were in full retreat, and that the glorious opportunity of capturing a large part of their force, with cannon and trains, was rapidly passing away. So completely did this idea take possession of their understandings that they did not entertain or discuss even a suspicion that Jackson, instead of seeking flight, was marching for their unguarded rear.

Sickles, away down in the woods below the Furnace, was so saturated with this notion of Lee's flight that he refused to listen to the staff officer who brought him the information that the Eleventh Corps, less than two miles in his rear, had been fighting for more than half an hour, and was being overpowered by greatly superior forces.

Not until after the second officer arrived, bringing details of danger and disaster, could he realize the absurdity of his expedition and the extreme peril in which his troops were then placed.

A more ridiculous and

STUPID SURPRISE did not occur in the history of the civil war. It seems incredible that when word came from Sickles to Hooker that he was among the rebel trains, that Jackson was actually three miles almost directly in his rear, and about to hurl the most of his 30,000 men upon the feeble obstacles in his front, comprising only the forlorn Eleventh Corps, then deprived of its reserve brigade.

It is still more incredible that when Birney was preparing to bivouac with his powerful division below the Welford Furnace, two miles below the Plank road, wondering what had become of the enemy, he was not aware that Jackson had been pulverizing the deserted and depleted Eleventh Corps for more than an hour.

It is certainly very singular that Birney, or Sickles, or Hooker did not suspect that Jackson's movement was to reach the rear of the Federal army. All the marching of trains and troops was in that direction, and the information derived from the soldiers taken with the 23d Ga. distinctly pointed in that direction, and when Lieut. Thorp brought these men, who had been captured by the Berdan Sharpshooters, to the rear and passed Gen. Sickles somewhere in the vicinity of the Furnace, he said to Sickles that Jackson's Corps was moving to the rear. Warren, it is said, was informed of it also; but

FATUITY WAS THE ORDER of the day not only at the extreme front, but in the rear and in the center of the army.

And so the entire day passed, and all about the Chancellor House was in blissful serenity. Pleasanton, with his cavalry, instead of scouting on the exposed right flank, clung to the shadow of Headquarters, where he innundated Hooker with his vain advice, "Quem Deus vult perdere!"

Hooker sat upon the porch of the Chancellor House, enjoying the calm Spring evening and listening to the sounds of the distant cannon, which were undoubtedly from Hardsway's artillery, only about one mile distant to the south or to the southeast of where he sat with Capt. Candier and Russell. It was about 6:30, or near that



GEN. CHAS. DEVENS.

time, when Russell stepped out in front of the house, and on looking down the road with his glasses, exclaimed: "My God, here they come!"

Hooker and both of his officers sprang upon their horses and rode a little distance down the road and met the advance of the Eleventh Corps stragglers coming up the road, and from them he first learned of Jackson's attack.

Not a sound had he or his staff heard of the conflict which had been going on for nearly an hour. Not an officer had come to him from the front to give him warning, and this disaster came upon him with stunning effect. Although Buschbeck and Sturz were then fighting with all the force they could muster, it was evident to Hooker at a glance that his army was in extreme peril, and well he might quail with dismay at the situation.

Sickles was at this moment miles away in the depths of the forest with 20,000 of his best troops, and his destruction or capture seemed certain. Turning to Candier he bade him to seek the First Corps, then supposed to be in position behind the White House, barely half a mile away, and bring it in person to the Fairview field in front of him.

Candier galloped rapidly away toward the north, and had almost reached the White House when Russell overtook him with orders to return instantly to Hooker. The commander had found out since the dispatch of Candier that the First Corps was not where he supposed it was and had been ordered, but was still beyond the Rappahannock River, and was not available until midnight or morning.

Candier then proceeded with new instructions to bring the First Corps

WITH ALL HASTE, and to take other artillery on the road to assist the corps. Candier did so and personally led the First Corps into a position on the Ely Ford Road, a mile northwest of Chancellorsville, and reported to Hooker at midnight that the corps was in position.

Then Hooker took a longer breath. But the blow had been too severe and too sudden, and the commander did not recover from it until after the campaign was over, if he did then. The compiler fails to find that intoxicants had anything to do with the depression of spirits into which Hooker had fallen, and he believes with other investigators that the wrecking of the Eleventh Corps by the unexpected blow of Jackson was the cause of Hooker's indecision and uncertainty; nothing else, although Hooker was known to the writer as a man of large libations at times.

Whisky played an important part in the operations of both armies in this battle, and was the cause of much disappointment, but it does not appear clear and certain that it was the cause of Hooker's lack of ability and energy when the crisis came.

At the Dowdall Tavern at 4 p. m. all was serene, and no fear of the approach of the enemy was entertained; in fact, there was nothing to disturb the calmness of the afternoon but the solitude that Gen. Lee might escape from the eager clutches of the Army of the Potomac. The reports from the menaced and outer lines were unheeded, and it is possible that the important and positive reports of Col. Lee and Richardson never passed their division commanders.

It has been strongly asserted by members of Gen. McLean's staff that the important and positive reports of Col. Lee and Richardson were never sent to the Corps Headquarters; and, moreover, Howard's staff assert that they never reached there. And they also maintain that the only information they had to consider was the widely-spread and widely-believed statement coming from Sickles to Hooker, and which was to the positive effect that Lee was retreating, and that his fleeing troops were being captured in large numbers.

This impression at the Dowdall Tavern was strengthened to a positive certainty when Capt. Moore, of Hooker's staff, came and demanded Barlow's Brigade, between

A NOBLE ATONEMENT.

A Romance of Love and Mystery in the Mother Country.

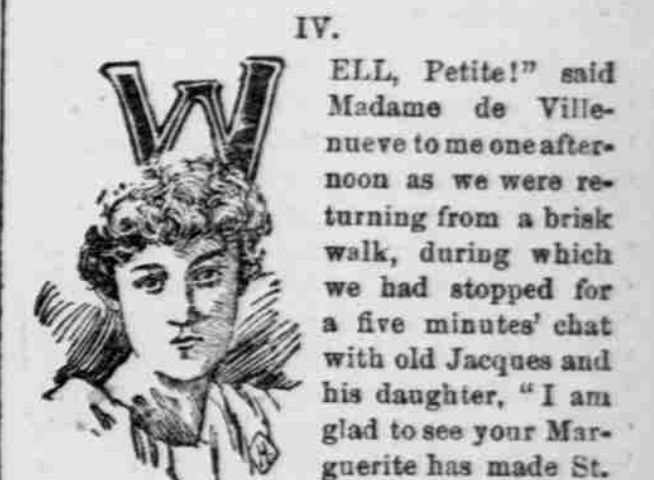
THE FIRST CONFESSION.

Saint Armand Falls Fainting Before His Fiances.

THE BISHOP'S STATEMENT.

The Prisoner Cleared—A Happy Denouement.

BY SOPHIE RADFORD DE MEINSEL. Written especially for THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.



IV. ELLA, Petite!" said Madame de Villeneuve to me one afternoon as we were returning from a brisk walk, during which we had stopped for a five minutes' chat with old Jacques and his daughter, "I am glad to see your Marguerite has made St. Armand more sociable than he formerly was. I should scarcely have recognized him bean tenebreux—so he used to be called by the many fair ones who essayed in vain in other days to attract his attention—in the happy lover we have had this Autumn at Flavettes. And now I must tell you, Kitty, that many have spoken to me of the Marquis Eugene's attentions to you; but, between ourselves, it is la belle poustin he admires, is it not? For I expect this heart"—here she touched my side laughingly with her hand—"belongs already to the charming friend whom your delightful brother brought last week from Paris to see us. Eh, Mignonne, am I not right?"

Even now, though Clement Harrington



THEY WERE DISPUTING THE GAME.

the hours of four and five p. m., to go to the Furnace to join Sickles's bold and brilliant movement and assist Birney, then supposed to have a firm grip on the rear of Lee's fugitive columns.

[To be continued.]

TURKEY'S GREAT GUNS.

Some Very Formidable Shots Fired During the Reign of the Mohammeds.

[Chambers' Journal.]

In 1478 Mohammed II., in forming the siege of Scutari, in Albania, employed 14 heavy bombard, the lightest of which threw a stone shot of 370 pounds' weight; two sent shots of 500 pounds, two of 750 pounds, two of 850 pounds, one of 1,200 pounds, and one of the enormous weight of 1,640 pounds, enormous even in these days, for the only guns whose shots exceed the heaviest of these are our 80-ton guns, throwing a 1,700 pound projectile, our 100-ton throwing one of 2,000 pounds, and the 116-ton throwing a 1,800-pound shot with a high velocity.

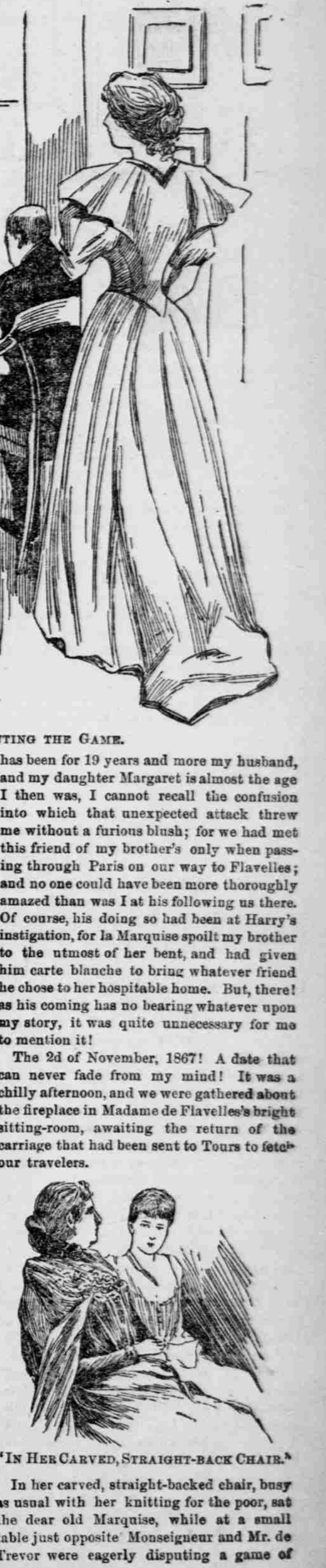
The stone shot of Mohammed's guns varied between 20 and 32 inches in diameter, about the height of a dining-table; 2,534 of them were fired on this occasion, weighing, according to a calculation of Gen. Lefroy's about 1,000 tons, and were cut out of the solid rock on the spot. Assuming 24 inches as the average diameter of the shot fired at this siege, the total area of the surface dressed was nearly 32,000 square feet. At this siege the weight of the powder fired is estimated by Gen. Lefroy to have been 250 tons. At the siege of Rhodes, in 1480, Mohammed caused 16 basisks, or double cannons, to be cast on the spot, throwing balls two to three feet in diameter.

Where Snubbing Did Good.

The Prince of Wales not long ago was one of a large house-party at a place in the English Midlands, his host being a very well-known Peer.

After dinner the royal guest, the host, and the other male visitors repaired to the billiard-room. On a table at the side were two or three boxes of cigars, and the Prince was helping himself to one, when an ambitious millionaire approached him, and, taking from his pocket a cigar-case, held it out to the Prince, saying: "I think, sir, you will find these better."

"Mr. —, if a man's dinner is good enough for me, his cigars are good enough for me." The millionaire was unexpectedly called away to town the next morning on business.



"IN HER CARVED, STRAIGHT-BACK CHAIR."

In her carved, straight-backed chair, busy as usual with her knitting for the poor, sat the dear old Marquise, while at a small table just opposite Monsieigneur and Mr. de Trevor were eagerly disputing a game of